

Denver Scholarship Foundation Awarded ‘Community Partner Award’ by the University of Denver Morgridge College of Education

April 27, 2016 – DENVER - The Denver Scholarship Foundation was recently awarded the ‘Community Partner Award’ by the University of Denver Morgridge College of Education (MCE) during their annual Appreciation Breakfast for Organization and Individual Partners. For three years, Denver Scholarship and the MCE have been in partnership to create service learning and internship opportunities for Master’s and PhD level students.

This year, the Higher Education Department (HED) chose Denver Scholarship to receive the ‘Community Partner Award’ because the partnership is essential to HED’s mission – to prepare equity-minded higher education professionals equipped to support college access and success for today and tomorrow’s college students. Denver Scholarship and HED are long-term partners. Denver Scholarship was the inaugural partner for the HED service-learning initiatives in their College Access and Retention Success courses – classes that make up 1/3 of the HED Master of Arts curriculum. Their long-standing partnership has led to Denver Scholarship hiring a number of HED students and alumni as interns, graduate assistants, college access/success researchers and directors of the Future Center across Denver Public Schools.

“We are grateful for this award and continued partnership with the University of Denver Morgridge College,” said Nate Easley, Denver Scholarship Foundation Executive Director. “It’s through partnerships like this that we are able to provide access to services and internship opportunities for Master’s and PhD level students. More than 25 graduate students have provided over 500 hours of service in Denver Scholarship Foundation Future Centers and in support of Denver Scholarship Foundation College Access and Success programs and evaluation efforts.”

The University of Denver is one of Denver Scholarship’s largest partners with 85 Scholars and an enrollment/completion rate of 93 percent. The partnership has proven to be a talent pipeline for Denver Scholarship, with two of the alumni currently on staff. Scholars make a huge impact on the local economy, returning as much as \$8 million annually to the metro area’s economy once they graduate.

“Our partnership with Denver Scholarship Foundation is crucial and has proven its success through the number of Scholars who have successfully enrolled and completed their schooling,” said Dr. Ryan Gildersleeve, Associate Professor and Chair, Higher Education Department. “We look forward to continuing and growing this partnership in the years to come.”

Denver Scholarship currently awards over \$4 million annually to 25% of qualifying Denver Public Schools students who are low income, from minority backgrounds, and primarily the first person in their families to attend college. In addition, since 2010, 80% of all Denver Scholarship Foundation Scholars have graduated college or technical school and continue to succeed in their educational programs.

About University of Denver Morgridge College of Education

The Morgridge College of Education (<http://www.du.edu/education/>) - offering 23 degrees and certificates in 9 programs - is located in Katherine A. Ruffatto Hall, a 65,000 square foot complex providing a flexible, innovative, and multidisciplinary learning environment. Through research, policy, and practice, students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to create change and positively affect individuals, families, and communities.

About The Denver Scholarship Foundation

The Denver Scholarship Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to inspire and empower Denver Public School students to achieve their postsecondary goals. A direct service provider, DSF provides college and financial-aid advice to Denver students and families and offers a renewable, need-based scholarship to support scholars throughout their college careers. DSF also partners with colleges across Colorado on retention strategies to help Denver students complete their postsecondary education. DSF aims to create a community-wide movement to prepare Denver’s youth to succeed in the sophisticated workforce of today and tomorrow! To donate to the Denver Scholarship Foundation, please visit donate.denverscholarship.org or call 303.951.4140.